

Summary of the EMSRB Presentation to the Sunset Commission

December 12, 2011

Presented by the Executive Director, Pam Biladeau

The scope, authority, and organizational structure of the EMSRB are derived from Minnesota Statutes 144E and Rules 4690.

The 19 member Board consists of 15 Governor appointed members, one of whom is a public member and seven of whom must reside outside the seven-county metro area. In addition, there are designees from the Commissioners of Health and Public Safety; and a state representative and senator who are non-voting members.

Staffing and Functions

The EMSRB has 12 staff that carry-out the responsibilities set forth by the statutes, rules, and policies of the Board. There are a wide variety of functions performed by staff. These functions fall into two categories; those performed by the EMS Specialists in the field and those performed in the Minneapolis office. Five EMS Specialists are geographically located near the regions in which they perform the following functions:

- **Primary Service Area Reviews and Approvals**
- **Ambulance Licensures**--Basic Life Support, Advanced Life Support, Part-time Advanced Life Support, Specialized Life Support, and Air Ambulance.
 - Ambulance and Airship **Inspections**--Inspections are a requirement for licensure.
- **Investigations**--The Board has a Complaint Review Panel (CRP) that consists of Board members who review complaints within statutes 144E.001 to 144E.33 and rules related to those sections. Examples of these complaints might involve non-staffing of ambulances, drug abuse, sexual misconduct, theft, assault and many others.
 - **Health Professional Services/Diversion Program and Referrals**
- **MNSTAR Ambulance Run Reports**--The reports include response time information and other elements to help ensure and improve quality patient care.
- **Emergency Preparedness**--The EMSRB is specifically listed in the Governor's Executive Order 10-06 which assigns responsibilities to state agencies for general emergency preparedness, planning, response, and recovery as outlined in the Minnesota Emergency Operations Plan (ex. flooding).

In the **Minneapolis Office** there are seven staff that perform the following functions:

- **Certify Prehospital Care Personnel**--Personnel are certified at four levels.
- **Approve Education Programs**
- **Provide EMS Collaboration**--Staff supports a variety of EMS initiatives and collaborates with the entire EMS System ranging from a bystander recognizing of an emergency and

"To provide leadership which optimizes the quality of emergency medical care for the people of Minnesota -- in collaboration with our communities -- through policy development, regulation, system design, education, and medical direction"

calling 911 to patient aftercare. Examples include the Educational Standards Workgroup, Community Paramedic Workgroup, EMS Regional Workgroup and many others.

- **Grant Management**--We have one grant specialist who manages a variety of grants that support the EMS system. EMS is supported by a strong volunteer corps. Of those we certify who work on an ambulance service, *approximately 65% are volunteers with a higher number of volunteers working on Rural Ambulance Services.*

Funding--General Funded

- The EMSRB receives a total of \$5,355,000 from all funding sources. Of this amount, approximately 22% accounts for the agency's operational budget; the remainder is paid out through a variety of grant programs to support EMS in Minnesota.
- Of note are the fees collected for ambulance licenses, training program approvals, reprinting duplicate cards, fines, and clearing credit cards. The fees collected go into the general fund and range between \$60,000-85,000 a year. The range in fees collected is due to the larger number of ambulance services in the metro vs. rural areas--ambulance licensure is for a two year period. *Note:* Fees collected do not support total EMSRB operations budget.
- To enhance our budget through economy of scale and efficiencies, we work cooperatively with the Health Licensing Boards by jointly funding the Administrative Services Unit (ASU). The ASU assists with financial management, procurement, IT and contracts.
- As a general fund agency, the EMSRB also has access to the services provided by the Attorney General's Office.
- In approximately the last 8 years through funding reductions the agency has not rehired, at least, 7 employees and 3 student workers. This has caused a significant stress on the agency to do more with less. In search of finding every possible way to identify efficiencies and cope with both the loss of staff, economic challenges and projected reduction in workforce demographics expected over the next 5-10 years, the EMSRB began several months ago, applying the LEAN process to search for additional efficiencies. *Note:* In previous reviews, no duplication exists between city, county or other entity of government for ambulance licensure or any other EMSRB responsibility designated in statutes or rules.

Statistics

Functions	Total Actions
Primary Service Area Reviews	321
Ambulance Licensures	321
Inspections	855
Investigations	100
Health Professional Services Program (Total 130)	12 current
MNSTAR Ambulance Run Reports	Statewide Runs: 485,801 (Metro 288,275; Greater MN 197,526)
Emergency Preparedness	Varies
Certification Prehospital Care Personnel	29,483
Education Programs Approved	173